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*May 6th, 1851.*

DR. MORTON, President in the Chair.

A letter dated Breslau, Sept. 2, 1850, from the Royal L. C. Academy of Sciences was read, acknowledging the receipt of Proceedings, Vol. 4, No. 8, Vol. 5, Nos. 2 and 3; also a second letter from the same, dated Breslau, Dec. 29th, 1850, accompanying Part 2, Vol. 2, of the Nova Acta of that Institution.

Dr. Leidy read a paper describing new species of Entozoa, &c., entitled "Contributions to Helminthology;" which was referred to Dr. Hallowell, Dr. Rand, and Dr. Bridges.

Dr. Leidy after some general remarks upon the transplantation of animal tissues, stated that about five months ago Dr. Horner removed from a female a scirrhus mamma, a portion of which, at his request, he took home for microscopic examination. In structure it proved to be composed of fibrous tissue and nucleated, elongated, or caudated cells. After the examination, about four hours subsequent to the removal of the tumor from the woman, Dr. L. inserted four pieces of the tumor, each half an inch long by one-eighth of an inch broad and thick, beneath the integument of the back of a large frog. Three of the fragments were pushed forward to the vicinity of the ear. In a few days succeeding the operation, the incision of the skin perfectly cicatrized.

Yesterday upon killing the frog, and opening the skin along the back, it was found that three of the scirrhus fragments had formed a vascular attachment with the integument, and for one half their length had had a large development of capillaries in them. Two of the fragments had also formed a vascular attachment to each other throughout their length. The fourth fragment had formed no attachment with the tissues of the frog, and had remained apparently unchanged. Upon examining the fragments with the microscope, it was found that the caudated cells had been entirely transformed into fibrous tissue.

Dr. L. exhibited a portion of the frog with the fragments of cancer attached. The net-work of blood vessels pervading the pieces was beautifully distinct to the naked eye.

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*May 13th.*

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The Librarian announced that the Portrait of Mr. George Ord, which had been presented to the Society by that gentleman at the request of several members, had been received, and was now in the Hall.

Mr. Vaux read a letter addressed to him by the Rev. Francis Mason, American Missionary at Burmah, dated Maulmain, Feb. 15th, 1851.

Mr. Mason after observing that he had been "for more than twenty years in this 'sleepy hollow,' shut out from the world and libraries, and with a few exceptions from books," proceeds to make the following observations of interest, on some plants of Burmah.

"On looking over Griffith's Medical Botany, which was recently put into my hands, it seems to me that our knowledge is very imperfect in that department

as well as in some others. The plant which produces the Siamese gamboge, for instance, is confessedly unknown. In the southern parts of these Provinces, near the Siamese boundary, there is a tree which produces a species of gamboge that cannot be distinguished from the gamboge that is brought from Siam; and in an article which was read before the Asiatic Society of Bengal, three or four years ago, I showed that that tree was *Garcinia elliptica*, a species named and described as a species imperfectly known by Dr. Wight; who was not at all aware that it produced gamboge. There can, I think, be little doubt, but that this is the tree which produces the Siamese gamboge. This was so clear to the members of the Asiatic Society, that the Secretary wrote me, 'Our best botanists here consider that you have hit on the true tree at last.' Again, gum-kino was exported several years ago in considerable quantities from Maulmain, brought overland from the Shan States, and is produced, so far as I can ascertain, from *Sterocarpus Wallichii*; yet this tree has no place in our Medical Floras.

I suspect that a large part of the crude camphor exported from China, and which is always referred to *Camphora officinarum*, is the product of one of the commonest weeds in Eastern India and China. In the early years of my residence at Yavoy, the Burmese pointed out to me a weed with leaves like mullein, which when bruised emits a strong odor of camphor. From it they told me they had been in the habit of distilling, from time immemorial, as good camphor, except that it was not so pure, as that which they saw in my medicine chest. Some of the Chinese settlers also say that the same plant abounds in China, and that camphor is made from it there. Mr. O'Riley, a sugar manufacturer at Amerst, made more than a hundred pounds of camphor from this weed, a few years ago, and sent a part of it to Calcutta for examination; and the official authorities reported on his specimens. 'In its refined form, it is identical in all its properties with Chinese camphor.' Mr. O'Riley sent flowering specimens of the plant to Calcutta, and they were forwarded thence to Dr. Voigt of Serampore, and the report added: 'Dr. Voigt states that it belongs to De Candolle's genus *Blumea*, and is, so far as he can see, a new species.' Not having books to enable me to determine the question of its being a new species or not, I left it in abeyance until I procured De Candolle's *Prodromus*, three or four years ago, and I was soon satisfied then, that it is the same plant as that which appeared in Wallich's catalogue, as *Conyza grandis*, and which De Candolle has described as *Blumea grandis*. Wallich's specimens were from Yavoy, without flowers, and De Candolle describes the leaf\* as nine inches long with the petiole, by three wide, serrated, and bearing on the petiole five or six remote linear acute lobes; which corresponds precisely to some specimens of our camphor plant; but it does not correspond to any other species of *Blumea* in the Provinces. This plant probably covers more of the surface of the Tenasserim Provinces than any other weed. Wherever the trees are cut down to clear the land, it springs up so thick that scarcely any thing else can live with it; so that an old clearing looks in the distance like a field under cultivation.

A letter was read from the Royal Society of London, dated Feb.

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\* "Cum petiolo 9 poll. longa, 3 poll. lata—serratis, petiolo lobulos, 5—6 distantes lineares acutos gerentibus."

20th, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings Nos. 3 to 5, Vol. 5.

Also a letter from the Asiatic Society of Bengal, dated Feb. 21st, 1851, acknowledging the receipt of the Journal Vols. 1 to 8, old series, Part 1, Vol. 1, new series, and Proceedings, Vols. 1, 2, 3, and Nos. 1—5, of Vol. 4.

On motion of Dr. Zantzinger, the thanks of the Society were presented to Mr. George Ord for the portrait received this evening.

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*May 16th.*

Vice-President WETHERILL in the Chair.

Upon taking the chair, Mr. Wetherill announced the decease of the President of the Society, Dr. Samuel George Morton, which took place at his residence in Arch Street yesterday morning, after an illness of only four days. The present meeting had been convened for the purpose of expressing the feelings of the members on this melancholy occasion.

Dr. Bridges in some very appropriate remarks on the character of the deceased, adverted to his long connexion with the institution, almost from its origin; his close adherence to its interests under the varied and trying circumstances through which it had passed; having successively filled its different offices, he had become the ornament of its prosperity, and died at last its President.

Dr. Charles D. Meigs expressed his deep and sincere regret for the loss of Dr. Morton, and bore testimony to his great private worth, his eminent scientific and professional abilities, and offered the following Preamble and Resolutions:

The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia being called upon to deplore the loss of its late respected and beloved President, Dr. Samuel George Morton, and considering that event as of deep interest to the whole Republic of Letters; feeling that the eminent attainments of their late Chief in the various departments of Literature and Science entitled him to the respect and admiration of all the friends of learning; that his consistent course of virtue, his liberality and urbanity, adorned and illustrated the Academy over which he presided, and reflected honor upon its name, are deeply impressed by the irreparable loss they, in common with all the friends of the Natural Sciences, have sustained by his death: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That this Academy esteem the life of their late President to be to all men a shining example of earnest and successful zeal in the pursuit and promotion of learning, in the cultivation of wisdom and virtue, and the practice of the highest liberality and benevolence.

*Resolved*, That the Academy do cherish and revere the memory of their deceased illustrious President, and that in order to commemorate